state of Florida; Cape Cod, Massachusetts; the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; Colorado; New York State; Long Island, New York; Connecticut; Wisconsin; and New Jersey. There are many other state and local ground water protection programs and activities, which, unfortunately, could not be reviewed in this study due to time constraints. Many of those programs undoubtedly have worthwhile characteristics that might warrant consideration by anyone contemplating ground water protection strategies.

The committee did not focus on all sources of degradation or contamination that could affect ground water. It studied those activities that have caused significant ground water degradation from a national view. These include solid waste disposal, storage and management of hazardous materials, nonpoint sources of pollution such as septic systems and agricultural chemicals applied to land, land application of waste waters, and production and storage of oil and gas. There are few all-inclusive programs that have been adopted to protect ground water. The committee did not examine how these selected state and local programs address comprehensive hazardous waste management strategies, underground injection of wastes, or materials for oil and gas recovery and mining.

To expand on how well the ground water protection programs were working in these states, the committee conducted personal interviews in several states, in addition to interviewing the state representatives invited to committee meetings. Those interviewed represented not only state and/or environmental health departments but industry, environmental law firms, consulting engineers, and public interest groups among others (see Appen-iix B). The objective was not to provide an inventory or a nationwide ground water assessment but to identify those ground water protection practices and procedures that have been successful, have experienced difficulty, or might be worth watching in the future. From interviews, discus-dons, and literature reviews, the committee reached the conclusions and recommendations presented in this report. The report has been jointly re-;earched and written by the committee members and others and reflects a compendium of ideas and thoughts that we hope will aid everyone interested in long-range improvement and protection of ground water quality.

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